

# OREGON TUALATIN VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



An ARRL Special Service Club

February 1991

Next Meeting February 13, 1991

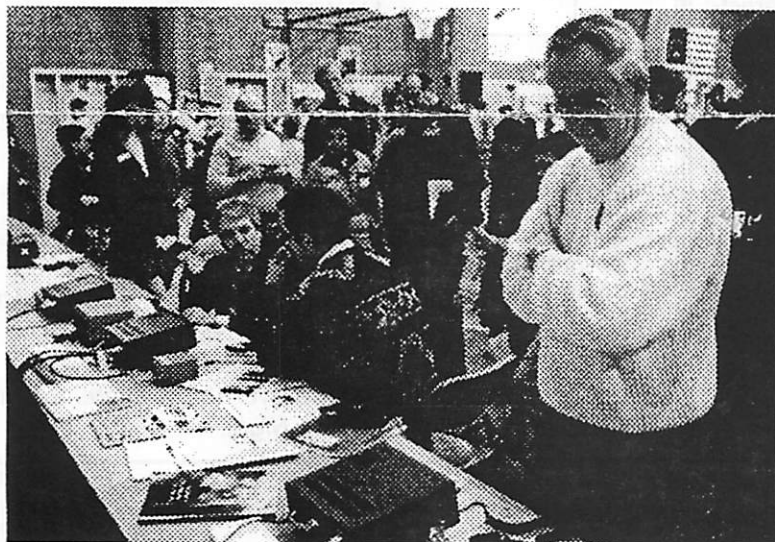
## Shuttle Amateur Radio Experiment

By Jim Yohe, KF7KY

SAREX. The secondary payload of Amateur Radio equipment aboard the Space Shuttle Columbia was used to communicate to HAMS and students around the world. This mission was different from past missions, though. During SAREX this time not only were students given the chance to hear the live communication of astronauts, but were allowed to talk back and ask questions of the ASTRO-1 crew!

Ron Parise, WA4SIR, an Amateur Radio operator took the SAREX payload aboard STS-35 and interactively communicated with schools and museums across the U.S. and one in Ecuador. This communication occurred because of a sophisticated system of Amateur and non-amateur relay stations in South America, Australia, and the United States.

A telephone bridge completed our link between Australia and West Linn, Oregon, where the K7QN repeater (Carl Robinson owner) provided 2 meter FM voice signals for use at Hopkins Elementary School in Sherwood, Oregon. The



Talking with SAREX Control (Dee Lynch Photo)

signals were picked up by an array of antennas residing on the OTVARC communications trailer. SAREX communications were heard over the Evergreen Intertie system in schools in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and British Columbia throughout the flight.

The day before our scheduled contact a number of individuals came out to the school to setup and test the antennas and radios. Some of the individuals representing the club were Ray Deeth K7VDQ (president of OTVARC), Terry Biggs WB7CHK, and Dee Lynch KA7NPN. It was Dee who offered his guidance, source of antenna supplies, and relentless help which was the key to our Amateur equipment operational success.

Others who are members of OTVARC, but came out as individuals, were Ken Davenport K7SXI,

Ira Rubin KF7QS, and Red Robert AA7CP. These individuals were key players in the assembly and operation of equipment for demonstrations to the approximately 500 attendees of this program. Also, help was provided by the NW Astronomy Group and Amateur Radio Net. Sandy Mikalow K7OOZ, Phil Read WB7ORE, and Rick Read KW7B are some of the hams from this group. Many more played smaller, but important roles.

Thanks goes to OTVARC as a club for its authorization to assemble a versatile communications trailer and for making it available for events like this!

"Sherwood to Shuttle" will air 6 times on cable starting February 23rd at 5:00 P.M. It is a one hour long documentary about the Sarex program at Sherwood Hopkin's Elementary School which occurred December 9, 1990.

The flight of the Space Shuttle Columbia is over, but the real work has just begun for us HAMS. Help get the word out about Amateur Radio through demonstrations and classes at schools and public events. It can only happen with your efforts! 73 - Jim

## Words from the President

By Ray Deeth, K7VDQ

If the attendance at the January meeting is any indication as to how membership in 1991 will support the meetings, it certainly showed great promises for February.

The format of the meeting was tested with the program at the beginning of the evening. And as AI (WB7SIC) commented, it really was great to have everyone return for a short business agenda.

I intend to keep the business a minimum and try pound out the business particulars at the Executive Board. This

### Future Programs

By Sue, N7EPE

In setting up programs for our meetings I have set out to cover three categories, ham, general interest and inter-club. It's inter-club that I want to discuss in this newsletter. This is where you come in.

I know of several club members who have interesting stations or mobile setups. There are many of you that have something to share I haven't heard about or seen that would be of interest to other members. It could be as simple as how you set up in limited space or hamming from an R.V. Contact me if you have something to share or know of someone who does.

This is an opportunity for us to share new and old ideas with new hams and to inspire others. I'd like to see one program this year with several installations presented.

will leave the meetings to educational programs and ELMER type discussions.

A reminder to everyone that the BINGO is every Sunday evening from 5PM to 8PM at the Ye Olde Dingheiser Rest. & Pub which is located on Rt. 26 going toward Seaside. If you see the Dairy Queen, Manning, Oregon, you have gone to far - turn around and drive back one mile. I'm very appreciative of KA7ZDE and XYL, Bobbi for their continuing support in helping with Bingo.

Paul (WB7BBG) has agreed to be chairman of the nominating committee in 1991. I have him starting early to twist the arm of an able body member to run for president this year. I know it is hard to find an able body, but how about a live body!!!!!! I do hope someone gives this serious consideration and I promise to lend my support to this person until they feel comfortable with the position.

After my meeting with I-COM, America, Bellevue, Wash., this years CASINO night will have many, many prizes which could mean you may go home with something for your efforts of playing the games. More later!!

#### I-Com / OTVARC CASINO NIGHT PRIZES MAY 31, 1991

Overall Winner	I-Com 2SAT Hand-Held
Second place	I-Com \$100.00 Gift Certificate
Third place	I-Com Jacket
Fourth place	I-Com DM20 Multimeter
Fifth place	TBA from Amateur Radio Supply
Sixth place	Shilo Inn Certificate
Seventh place	Oceanview Certificate
Eighth place	I-Com hats and vendor's gift certificates will be given from here on.

*Lots of prizes will be made available - Therefore, you could be a winner at Casino Night.*

## February Meeting

Mary Lou Brown, NM7N

*Vice Director, Northwest Division, ARRL*

In January, Mary attended the ARRL Board of Directors meeting in Newington. There will be some interesting things to hear and discuss as a result of that meeting. As time permits, she will discuss her trip to Kanan, U.S.S.R. as a member of the Western Washington DX Club.

## Short Subject

Dale Labarron, W7FBP, will give an introduction to the MARS program, Military Amateur Radio Service. This is to inform us about the program and direct those that may want to follow up for more information.

*"Short Subjects" is a new addition to the meetings to introduce or review subjects in 5 to 10 minute segments. If you have something you would like to have reviewed or discussed please inform anyone of us on the board.*

## "Freebanders" Shutdown

For what seems to be the first time ever, the FCC made an organized mass "bust" of so-called "freeband" operators in the 25 and 28 MHz bands. Enforcement actions against specific operators have been taken in the past, but this latest crack down nabbed 144 violators over Dec. 13 and 14. Personnel from all 35 FCC field offices were involved in the effort.

The average fine imposed was \$1,000. Several were fined \$2,000 for repeat offenses. Some operators refused to allow FCC agents to inspect their stations. This refusal itself drew a \$600 fine in addition to the regular \$1,000 fine for unauthorized operation. The total amount fined in the freeband sweep was a whopping \$147,000.

Unlike other FCC actions against illegal stations, no U.S. Marshals were involved in the effort and equipment was examined but not seized. In most cases operators were identified by long-range direction finding, followed by close-in mobile DF by Field Operations Bureau vehicles.

Besides the fact that the "freeband" frequencies are not allocated to citizen use, incidents of TV interference have increased as the illegal operations have expanded the size of the band they occupy. We were shown computer-generated plots of freeband activity that indicated saturation level operation in the 27.405-28 MHz area. The bands are allocated to business and government low-power use. FCC staff were not aware of any particular interference from freebanders to those legitimate operations.

The unlicensed transmissions came from all 50 states, plus D.C. and Puerto Rico. The most active states were Florida, California, Michigan, Texas and Arizona. The equipment was typically modified CB or ham gear, often used with home brew or illegal manufactured linear amplifiers. According to FCC staff, the most common

radio involved in the activity was the infamous Uniden 2510 10-meter transceiver running 20-25 W.

In an address to a Virginia ham club on Janua 15, 1989, Arian Van Doorn, Deputy Chief of the FCC's Washington, D.C. Field Operations Bureau mentioned that the FCC had obtained a Uniden 2510 complete with a set of instructions explaining how to modify it to freeband operation. Uniden was later required to recall their 251 O's and exproxy the adjustment point. Apparently many 2510's were sold for illegal use, however, before the recall.

## Project Night

By Terry, WB7CHK

I Received a call from the city of Beaverton and we are going to have to change the meeting place and day. Because the Beaverton City Library is expanding, there are two meeting rooms that won't be available this year. This puts a lot of pressure on the other three meeting rooms.

The Beaverton city engineering department needs the Hoffman room on Wednesday nights so we will have to go to a different place and day for 1991. The new day is the last Tuesday of the month, time is still 7:00 P.M., and the new place is the old Beaverton City court room on the north east corner of S.W. 5th and Hall Boulevard.

Sorry for the short notice and the change, but we really didn't have any other options at this time.

Questions?? Give me a call at 648-3687.

## OTVARC Travelers

By Jerry Mohr, N7KUQ

The January OTVARC Travelers campout at Woodburn RV Park was enjoyed by all who attended. We had beautiful weather, pleasant facilities, and a good time visiting with friends. The Saturday evening potluck was outstanding as usual. Nine rigs showed up. Those attending were: Al-WB7SIC & Mary Berg, Geno Buell-KA7KBH, Bud-KC7PS & Sally Butterfield, Dave-N7DWL & Marian Funk, Nona Lanston, Jerry-N7KUQ & Bobbie-KB7DME Mohr, Roger-KA7RNN & Marvel-KA7TZY Noyes, Bob-WF7Q & Jo-KA7MIE Orr, and Gene & Sally Stickney.

The next OTVARC Travelers campout will be February 15-16 at Cape Kiwanda RV Park in Pacific City, Oregon on the coast. The rates are \$13.50 (full hook-up), \$12.50 (water & electricity) and \$8.00 (tent, auto). They have a nice recreation room which we can use Friday night and all day Saturday. Use 147.22 frequency while enroute and 145.67 frequency while in the vicinity of the RV park. You are all welcome to join us.

## Instructor Needed to Teach Ham Basics

Many OTVARC members can attribute their success in passing the Novice exam to the instruction given through PCC. Many fine people have volunteered to help with these classes in the past. As of yet, however, we don't have anyone to teach the classes during Spring term of this year.

And with the implementation of the no-code license, there could be enormous interest in beginning ham classes this Spring. If you are interested in teaching, or if you know someone who is, please contact Alan, K07B, at 292-5243. It is a rewarding opportunity and doesn't require any great skills. Please help if you can.

## **An OTVARC Member To The Rescue, Don, N7DDK**

On a Friday evening, Mary (My XYL) who is a school secretary at Echo Shaw Elementary School, came home with the following problem. She had a mother of a student whose grandmother had passed away in the State of Washington. The grandmother's daughter and husband were spending the winter at the tip of the Baja Peninsula of Mexico.

The student's mother tried to contact her parents through the LaPaz Police with the help of a Spanish speaking friend. This request of the LaPaz Police produced no results. Mary said to her, "My husband is a HAM operator, may be he could help."

Of course there had to be a contest in progress that week end, so needless to say I was unable to make any contacts. On Monday morning I tried several Spanish speaking HAMS on 15 meters, but they were in Mexico City or in eastern Mexico. I QSY to the DX net on 15 meters and ask if there were any operators from the Baja area. This prompted a response from a XE2QC, Jazleo, Tijuana, Mexico, who is a airport controller by profession.

He said there were a couple of nets that he usually checked into that had operators in the Baja area. We ended up on a Maritime Net on 20 meters, but they had doubts whether any contacts could be managed. I left the health and welfare traffic with the NCS of the Maritime Net. Then on Tuesday, Mary, told me that two HAMS made a special trip to the RV Park, 30 miles South of LaPaz, to deliver the message. After receiving message, they immediately flew home and arrived in time for the funeral Wednesday morning.

Again, Amateur Radio to the rescue by reacting promptly and effectively. In appreciation, the family sent me a beautiful Poinsettia plant. This operating event occurred just before Christmas. (Don Branda, N7DDK.)

It should be noted that Don's HAM station handled traffic during the Mexico City Earthquake. A neighbor of one the teachers at Echo Shaw School mentioned to her that she had two sisters in Mexico City and was unable to contact them through government channels.

The teacher advised her that the school secretary's husband, Don, was a Ham Operator and may be he could make contact. The concerned women contacted Don on a Saturday evening just as he was leaving to have dinner out with friends. Don took all the information from her and said he would try Sunday morning. Don was very fortunate to make contact with a Mexico City HAM radio operator who call the sisters at their respective residences and found that they were safe and unharmed.

Don relayed the information to the concerned lady and was very appreciative of Don's efforts.



RAY DEETH

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The **OVARC NEWSLETTER** is published monthly by the Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

The opinions, views and recommendations of its contributors are not necessarily those of the Club, it's officers, advertisers or the Editorial Staff.

Articles or letters may be submitted to:

Jeffrey A. Durr, KA7AKU, Editor  
17615 N.W. Country Drive  
Portland, Oregon 97229.

Deadline for all material is the 20th of the preceding month.

All correspondence other than for this newsletter should be sent to:

Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club  
Post Office Box 5132  
Aloha, Oregon 97006-0132.

Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at the Beaverton Elks Lodge, 3500 S.W. 104th Avenue, Beaverton, Oregon.

Meetings begin at 7:00 P.M. following a buffet dinner served at 6:15 P.M.



## Upcoming Events

February 13	OTVARC General Meeting Beaverton Elks Club, 7 P.M.
February 15, 16	OTVARC Travelers Campout Cape Kiwanda R.V. Park
February 16	Salem Hamfair Polk County Fairgrounds
February 26	Project Night
March 15, 16	OTVARC Travelers Campout River Oaks Park, WA
March 26	Project Night
April 11	OTVARC April Fools Contest 10 Meters, 28.3 to 28.5 Mhz 8 P.M. to 9 P.M.
April 19, 20	OTVARC Travelers Campout Big Eddy Park, OR
April 30	Project Night
May 17, 18	OTVARC Travelers Campout Chehalis 1000 Trails, WA
May 30	Project Night
June 1, 2	SEAPAC Convention Seaside, Oregon
July 13, 14	State Games Of Oregon
July 19, 20	OTVARC Travelers Campout Skamokawa Park, WA
August 16, 17	OTVARC Travelers Campout Beaver Bay, WA
August 23, 24	Hood To Coast Relay
September 20, 21	OTVARC Travelers Campout Silver Falls State Park, OR
September 24	Project Night
September 29	Portland Marathon
October 18, 19	OTVARC Travelers Campout Pacific City 1000 Trails, OR

## OREGON TUALATIN VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

### Executive Board

Feel free to contact the Board of OTVARC to answer any questions you may have.

President:	Ray Deeth	K7VDQ	324-4502
Vice Pres:	Sue Benson	N7EPE	640-1989
Secretary:	Steve Coan	KA7MOW	646-5271
Treasurer:	Ken Gilbert	WR7D	292-3497
Trustee:	Wes Allen	K7WWG	649-3295
Trustee:	Al Berg	WB7SIC	640-5456
Trustee:	Lynn Hurd	WB7UNU	649-9152
Trustee:	Alan Roehl	KO7B	292-5243
Trustee:	Jim Schaeffer	KB7ADH	245-2518

### Other Club Contacts

#### Club Trailer / Club Equipment / Technical:

Dee Lynch	KA7NPN	646-4580
Terry Biggs	WB7CHK	648-3687

#### Contests:

John Koenig	NB7W	641-3575
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#### Health and Welfare:

Al Berg	WB7SIC	640-5456
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#### Public Service:

Randy Stimson	KZ7T	297-1175
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#### Newsletter:

Jeff Durr	KA7AKU	645-3205
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#### Project Night:

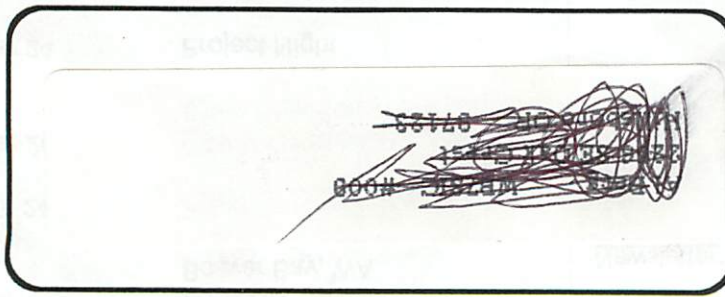
Terry Biggs	WB7CHK	648-3687
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#### Scholarships:

Pat Griffiths	KA7UFG	649-0837
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#### Travelers:

Jerry Mohr	N7KUQ	646-4027
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Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club



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